

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The input system for a portable terminal according to claim 2, wherein:~~ An input system for a portable terminal, comprising a portable terminal which uses a control unit for input, wherein:

a plurality of control units are detachably mounted on said portable terminal, and one or more control units can be selected from said plurality of control units, said portable terminal using the selected control unit(s) for input, and wherein

said portable terminal comprises contact detection plates for detecting contact on plate surfaces and accepts input from said control units based on the result of detection performed by said contact detection plates; and

each of said control units comprises movable contacts which, when said control unit is mounted on said portable terminal in such a way as to lie on one of said contact detection plates, come into and out of contact with said contact detection plate by move.

6. (Original) The input system for a portable terminal according to claim 5, wherein:

each of said control units comprises ID contacts which come into contact with unique parts of said contact detection plate when said control unit is mounted on said portable terminal in such a way as to lie on said contact detection plate; and

said portable terminal detects the places of contact between said contact detection plate and ID contacts and identifies said control unit based on the result of the detection.

7. (Original) The input system for a portable terminal according to claim 6, wherein:

said portable terminal comprises storage means for storing control unit information for each of said control units, detects the places of contact between said contact detection plate and said ID contacts, searches said storage means for appropriate control unit information based on the result of the detection, and identifies said control unit based on the retrieved control unit information.

8. (Currently Amended) The input system for a portable terminal according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 5, wherein:

said portable terminal comprises portable-terminal-side connection terminals for connecting electrically with said control units and accepts input from said control units through electrical communications with said portable-terminal-side connection terminals; and

each of said control units comprises a control-unit-side connection terminal for connecting electrically with one of said portable-terminal-side connection terminals and operation means to be operated by the user, and in response to the operation of said operation means, changes the content of electrical signals associated with electrical communications between said control-unit-side connection terminal and said portable-terminal-side connection terminal.

9. (Original) The input system for a portable terminal according to claim 8, wherein:

each of said control units connects ID circuit to said control-unit-side connection terminal, said ID circuit changes the content of electrical signals associated with electrical communications between said control-unit-side connection terminal and said portable-terminal-side connection terminal into unique content; and

said portable terminal identifies said control unit based on the electrical communications between said portable-terminal-side connection terminal and said ID circuit.

10. (Original) The input system for a portable terminal according to claim 9, wherein:

said portable terminal comprises storage means for storing control unit information for each of said control units, acquires ID information based on electrical communications between said portable-terminal-side connection terminal and said ID circuit, searches said storage means for appropriate control unit information based on the acquired ID information, and identifies said control unit based on the retrieved control unit information.

11. (Currently Amended) The input system for a portable terminal according to ~~claim 2~~ claim 5, wherein:

said portable terminal requires, during application start-up, for one or more of said control units to be selected and when one or more control units are selected, accepts input for the application from the selected control unit(s).

12.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Am~~ A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon a computer-readable input program to be executed by the input system for a portable terminal according to ~~claim 3~~ claim 5 consisting of for use with a computer system, wherein

said input program is ~~program which is executed operation, said operation can be selected when executed causes said computer system to select~~ one or more control units from said plurality of control units and makes input to be accepted in said portable terminal via the selected control unit.

16. (Canceled)